

AMENDMENT OF SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph at page 10, lines 7-16 as follows:

A spraying device 22 serves to apply an anti-stick medium or other fluid medium with which the gas nozzle 12, and/or and the welding wire located in the gas nozzle 12, are uniformly moistened. The spraying device 22 is movable in the direction of a second axis 24, located differently from the first axis 20, relative to the clamping/holding device 16. As Fig. 1 shows, the first axis 20 and the second axis 24 are disposed substantially transversely to one another and preferably form an angle of between approximately 60° and approximately 150°, preferably approximately 90°.

Amend the paragraph at page 11, lines 11-30 as follows:

In particular, as can be seen from the enlarged view in Fig. 2, the spraying device 22 or spray nozzle 36 is coupled mechanically to the cutting device ~~44~~ 40. In particular, a spray nozzle 36 of the spraying device 22 is disposed on one of the knife holders 46, 48 of the cutting device 40. If the cutting device ~~44~~ 40 or the knives 42, 44 or the knife holders 46, 48 are moved in the direction of the second axis 24 out of a position of repose into the cutting position, the spraying device 22 and spray nozzle 36 move jointly with the cutting device in the direction of the second axis 24. Simultaneously with the cutting motion of the cutting device 40, the spraying device 22 and the spray nozzle 36 are then also moved toward the gas nozzle 12, so that then, during the cutting operation or after this cutting operation by the cutting device 40, the spraying device 22 can also be activated, in order to moisten both the gas nozzle 12 and the welding wire with anti-stick medium. In terms of a procedure, cutting, or cutting to length, of the welding wire and moistening of the gas nozzle 12 with anti-stick medium or other fluid thus occur simultaneously.